

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Rejections

In the Advisory Action of 2/8/2005, Examiner states that:

...(t)he claimed subject matter directed to "resistance to bending is dependent primarily upon the stiffness of said stiffening wire" is not believed to overcome the art of record in that if the locking function of the device is indeed loose with minimum friction contact, the resistance to bending would be caused primarily by the inherent stiffness of the wire.

In response, Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 19 to include the limitation

wherein said bendable extension arm's resistance to bending *when being utilized for extending a user's reach* is dependent primarily upon the stiffness of said stiffening wire. Emphasis added.

Examiner states, "... *if* the locking function of (Carr's) device is indeed loose with minimum friction contact, the resistance to bending would be caused primarily by the inherent stiffness of the wire." Emphasis added. Please note the locking function of Carr's device is loosened only when the shape of the tool handle is being adjusted. (A description of the utilization of Carr's device is found starting at Column 3, line 62 – Column 4, line 16.) When Carr's device is being utilized for extending a user's reach, the locking function of Carr's device is never loosened. If it were loosened, Carr's device would simply not work properly to extend a user's reach because Carr's device would be unable to hold its shape. To work properly, Carr's device absolutely requires that the locking mechanism is utilized when the user's reach is extended. Therefore, in Carr the resistance to bending of Carr's device when it is being utilized for extending a user's reach is dependent entirely or almost entirely upon Carr's locking mechanism. In contrast, in Applicant's device when Applicant's bendable extension arm is being utilized for extending a user's reach, the resistance to bending is dependent primarily upon the stiffness of said stiffening wire. Therefore, Claim 1, dependent Claims 2 – 17, and Claim 19 as presently amended should now be allowable.

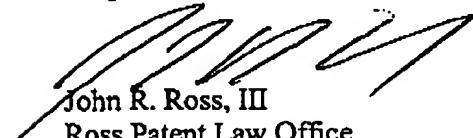
New Claims

Applicant has added new Claims 20 – 26. These Claims are not disclosed in the prior art and should therefore be allowable.

Conclusion

Thus, for all the reasons given above, this application, as the claims are presently limited, defines a novel, patentable, and truly valuable invention. Hence allowance of all outstanding claims in this application is respectfully submitted to be proper and is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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